

Remarks

Applicants' representative conducted an interview with the Examiner regarding the Restriction Requirement dated October 29, 2009. According to that interview, Applicants agreed to make the amendments set forth herein and the Examiner agreed to withdraw the restriction requirement. Accordingly, claims 1, 18, and 20 are amended. No new matter is added. Claims 22-23, which the Examiner indicated to be restricted subject matter, have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of claims 22-23. Claims 1-21 and 24-26 are pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration

The Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and request that claims 1-21 and 24-26 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 22, 2009
Date

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